

Amendments to the Drawings

Replace the three sheets of drawings containing Figures 1-3 with the attached Replacement Sheets of Drawings containing Figures 1-3 which have been labeled as "PRIOR ART".

REMARKS

Initially, Applicants would like to express their appreciation to the Examiner for the detailed Official Action provided, for the acknowledgment of Applicants' Information Disclosure Statements by return of the Forms PTO-1449, and for the acknowledgment of Applicants' Claim for Priority and receipt of the certified copy of the priority document in the Official Action.

Claims 1-18 are currently pending. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the outstanding rejections, and allowance of all the claims pending in the present application.

On page 2 of the Official Action, the drawings were objected to because the Examiner requested labeling of Figures 1-3 as "Prior Art" instead of "Conventional Art". Although Applicants do not necessarily agree with the Examiner's objection, Replacement Sheets of Drawings containing Figures 1-3 which have been labeled as "PRIOR ART" are being submitted herewith. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests approval of the Drawings and withdrawal of the objection.

On page 3 of the Official Action, claims 1-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by PARK et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,585,500).

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

As an initial matter, Applicants note that the Examiner's statement of the rejection indicates a lack of understanding of the system disclosed in PARK et al. (which is commonly assigned with the present application). Contrary to the

Examiner's characterization, Applicants note that passage 12a in PARK et al. is not an oil passage, but is instead clearly disclosed as being a *gas opening* connected to a *refrigerant channel*. Note column 3, line 62 through column 4, line 4. In this regard, Applicants note that the only discussion of an oil supply in PARK et al. is the oil feeder O shown in Fig. 1. Note column 1, lines 53-57.

Claim 1 recites, inter alia, "a front frame having a suction hole which supplies the lubrication oil pumped from the pumping unit to a sliding part within the case, and a discharge hole which discharges the lubrication oil after performing a lubrication operation; and a lubrication oil storage arranged at a front of the discharge hole that stores the lubrication oil discharged to the discharge hole for a predetermined time and then discharges the lubricating oil."

Claim 11 recites, inter alia, "a front frame having a supply hole which supplies the lubrication oil pumped from the pumping unit to a sliding part within the case and a discharge hole which discharges the lubrication oil upon completion of a lubrication operation; a lubrication oil storage arranged at a front surface of the discharge hole for storing the lubrication oil discharged from the discharge hole for a predetermined time and then discharging the lubrication oil".

Applicants submit that PARK et al. lacks any disclosure of a *lubrication oil storage arranged at a front of a discharge hole that stores lubrication oil discharged from the discharge hole for a predetermined time and then discharges the lubricating oil*. In this regard, as noted above, passage 12a in PARK et al. is not even an oil passage, but is instead a *gas opening for refrigerant*. Further, Applicants submit that there is no disclosure in PARK et al.

of the *lubrication oil storage* recited in these claims. If the Examiner intends to maintain his position, Applicants respectfully request an indication of what structure in PARK et al. he believes teaches the claimed lubrication oil storage.

Claim 11 further recites, inter alia, "a lubrication oil guide that guides the lubrication oil discharged from the discharge hole to a lower portion of the case and preventing the lubrication oil discharged through the discharge hole from flowing to an air hole formed in the front frame."

Applicants further submit that PARK et al. lacks any disclosure of a *lubrication oil guide that guides lubrication oil discharged from a discharge hole to a lower portion of a case and preventing the lubrication oil discharged through the discharge hole from flowing to an air hole formed in a front frame*. If the Examiner intends to maintain his position, Applicants respectfully request an indication of what structure in PARK et al. he believes teaches the claimed lubrication oil guide.

Applicants also submit that dependent claims 2-10 and 12-18, which are at least patentable due to their respective dependencies from claims 1 and 11 for the reasons noted above, recite additional features of the invention and are also separately patentable over the prior art of record. For example, Applicant submits that PARK et al. lacks any disclosure of the relative cross-sectional areas as recited in claims 2 and 12; the particulars of the lubrication oil storage as recited in claims 3-10 and 13-16; or the particulars of the lubrication oil guide as recited in claims 17 and 18. If the Examiner intends to maintain his position,

Applicants respectfully request an indication of what structure in PARK et al. he believes teaches the subject matter recited in these dependent claims.

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is improper at least for each and certainly for all of the above-noted reasons. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection, and an early indication of the allowance of all of the pending claims.


SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Entry and consideration of the replacement sheets of drawings, reconsideration of the outstanding Official Action, and allowance of the present application and all of the claims therein are respectfully requested and now believed to be appropriate.

Applicants have made a sincere effort to place the present application in condition for allowance and believe that they have now done so.

Should there be any questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,  
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Attachment: Three Replacement Sheets of Drawings containing Figs. 1-3